

Health and Environment Committee

From: Mental Health Commissioner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 8 January 2021 1:46 PM
To: Health and Environment Committee
Subject: Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2020

Categories: Submission

Dear Committee Secretary,

I refer to your email of 4 December 2020 regarding the *Public Health and Other Legislation (Extension of Expiring Provisions) Amendment Bill 2020*.

We note that the Bill extends the expiry dates of the amendments made to the *Mental Health Act 2016 (MHA2016)* through the *Justice and Other Legislation (COVID-19 Emergency Response) Amendment Act 2020* to allow:

- declarations to be made about a mental health service through an expedited process; and
- mental health patients to be granted leave to comply with public health directions for a further six months until the end of September 2021.

While the Commission appreciates the implications of the ongoing pandemic for the *MHA2016*, we encourage consultation with people with a lived experience of mental ill-health who are strongly impacted by these changes.

Yours sincerely,

Bretine Curtis

Interim Executive Director

Queensland Mental Health Commission

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I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians past and present on whose land I walk, I work and I live.



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